FOREIGN AFFAIRS REFORM/China Missile Sales to Iran

SUBJECT: Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1997...S. 903. Bennett amendment No. 392.

ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 96-0

SYNOPSIS: As reported, S. 903, the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1997, will reorganize and consolidate the foreign affairs agencies of the United States Government. Arrearages of \$819 million to the United Nations will be paid over 3 years subject to certain conditions. The bill will authorize \$6.08 billion in fiscal year (FY) 1998 and \$5.93 billion in FY 1999 for the State Department and other foreign affairs agencies, including the Peace Corps.

The Bennett amendment would express the sense of the Senate that the Clinton Administration should enforce the provisions of the Iran-Iraq Arms Non-Proliferation Act with respect to the acquisition by Iran of C-802 model cruise missiles from the People's Republic of China. (Those provisions, called the McCain/Gore Act, allow the President to impose sanctions on companies that sell that type of weaponry to Iran.) The amendment is based on several findings, including that China has sold 60 C-802 missiles to Iran, that 5,000 members of the United States Armed Forces are within striking distance of those missiles, and that the Clinton Administration has concluded that those missiles "are not of a destabilizing number and type."

Those favoring the amendment contended:

Ten years ago an Exocet cruise missile struck the United States escort vessel U.S.S. *Stark*, killing 37 sailors. The Chinese Precision Machinery Import-Export Corporation has designed a more modern, more powerful antishipping cruise missile based on the Exocet missile and has sold 60 land-, sea-, and air-based versions of it to Iran. Thousands of American servicemen and women are within striking distance of those missiles. Most of the shipping through the Persian Gulf is within striking distance as well. According to a senior Defense Department official, the recent addition of air-launched missiles means that the time that U.S. ships will have to respond to any attack will now be measured in seconds rather than minutes. Secretary of Defense Cohen has said that

(See other side) NAYS (0) **YEAS (96)** NOT VOTING (4) Republican Democrats Republicans **Democrats** Republicans **Democrats** (54 or 100%) (42 or 100%) (0 or 0%) (0 or 0%) **(1) (3)** Daschle-4 Abraham Helms Akaka Kennedy Kempthorne-2 Allard Hutchinson Baucus Kerrey Ashcroft Hutchison Johnson-4 Biden Kerry Kohl Bennett Inhofe Bingaman Bond **Jeffords** Boxer Landrieu Brownback Kyl Breaux Lautenberg Burns Lott Bryan Leahy Campbell Bumpers Levin Lugar Mack Byrd Lieberman Chafee Cleland McCain Mikulski Coats Cochran McConnell Conrad Moseley-Braun Collins Murkowski Dodd Moynihan Coverdell Nickles Dorgan Murray Craig Roberts Durbin Reed D'Amato Roth Feingold Reid DeWine Santorum Feinstein Robb Sessions EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE: Domenici Ford Rockefeller Enzi Shelby Glenn Sarbanes 1—Official Business Faircloth Smith, Bob Graham Torricelli 2—Necessarily Absent Smith, Gordon Frist Hollings Wellstone 3—Illness Gorton Snowe Inouye Wyden 4—Other Gramm Specter Grams Stevens SYMBOLS: Grassley Thomas AY—Announced Yea Thompson Gregg AN-Announced Nav Hagel Thurmond PY-Paired Yea Hatch Warner PN-Paired Nay

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the air-launched cruise missile "complicates" U.S. military operations in the Persian Gulf. Current United States law allows the President to impose sanctions on companies that sell this type of weapon to Iran. The Bennett amendment would express the sense of the Senate in favor of enforcing that law. We urge its adoption.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.